

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Farm Service Agency  
Washington, DC 20250

**Notice TB-1016**

**For:** FL and GA State and County Offices and KCAO

**Cross County Line Sale - Flue-Cured Tobacco Quota Referendum**

**Approved by:** Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



**1 Overview**

**A**

**Background**

The Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2000, provides that the Secretary shall permit the sale of a flue-cured tobacco quota from one farm to another farm across county lines within the State if a majority of active tobacco producers voting in a referendum approves such provisions.

The Department has received petitions from 25 percent of active flue-cured tobacco producers in Florida and Georgia requesting a referendum in these States. The referendum will be conducted from October 15-19, 2001.

**B**

**Purpose**

This notice provides instructions for conducting the cross county line sale of flue-cured quota referendum.

**Disposal Date**

December 1, 2001

**Distribution**

Above State Offices and KCAO; State Offices relay to applicable County Offices

## Notice TB-1016

### 2 Action

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#### A

#### Conducting Referendum

To conduct referendum for sale of flue-cured tobacco quota across county lines within the State, County Offices shall take the following action.

| Step | Action   |
|------|--|
| 1    | Publicize the referendum by all available means.   |
| 2    | Inventory referendum supplies and ensure that supplies are adequate.   |
| 3    | Follow 9-TB SCOAP to build the eligibility file and generate MQ-4.<br><br><b>Note:</b> To be eligible to vote in the referendum, producers must meet eligibility requirements as provided in 1-PA, Part 2. |
| 4    | Reproduce the "instruction sheet" in Exhibit 1 and mail with ballots.  |
| 5    | Mail ballots by October 10, 2001.  |
| 6    | Conduct referendum according to 1-PA.  |
| 7    | Call referendum results into the State Office after completing tabulation on October 24, 2001, no later than 2 p.m.  |
| 8    | Submit MQ-7 to the State Office by October 29, 2001, according to 1-PA, paragraph 54.  |

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**2 Action (Continued)**

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**B  
Referendum  
Results**

State Offices shall:

- publicize the referendum by all available means
  - on October 24, 2001, telephone the preliminary referendum results into TPD at 202-720-4281 no later than 4 p.m.
  - by November 1, 2001, submit final referendum results on MQ-8 according to 1-PA, paragraph 77.
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**Instructions for Voting in the October 15-19, 2001, Sale of Flue-Cured Tobacco Quota Across County Lines--Referendum**

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| Step | Action   |
|------|--|
| 1    | Place a check mark in the "YES" or "NO" box on the ballot.   |
| 2    | Place ballot in the enclosed plain envelope.   |
| 3    | Seal the plain envelope.   |
| 4    | Place the plain envelope in the self-addressed certification envelope.   |
| 5    | Seal the certification envelope.   |
| 6    | Sign the certification on the reverse side of the certification envelope or have your mark witnessed. <b>Ballot will not be counted if certification is not properly signed.</b> |
| 7    | Place a stamp on the certification envelope. Ballot will not be delivered unless adequate postage is provided.   |
| 8    | Return the certification envelope containing the sealed plain envelope to the County Office by mail or in person.  |

**Returning Ballots**

**By Mail:** If mailed, the certification envelope must be postmarked not later than midnight on October 19, 2001, and received at the County Office before the start of canvassing the ballots.

**In Person:** If returned in person, the certification envelope must be received at the County Office by the close of the workday on October 19, 2001.

**Canvassing Ballots**

Ballots will be canvassed on October 24, 2001, by the end of the workday. If you have any questions about this referendum, contact the County Office.

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